

## Children's Department.

FOR THE LITTLE FOLKS.

BY THE EDITOR.

DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS.—We wonder if you really enjoy reading the children's page in the EVANGELIST. Last week there were but few letters from the children. This week there are more, and we gladly publish them. Some of you remember the letter from Myrtle Lindsey, Sullivan, O. Here is another one from her, in which she guesses correctly about the two little girls:—

SULLIVAN, O., July 9, 1895.

DEAR EDITOR:—Thank you for that copy of the EVANGELIST. You ask me to make another guess at the picture. The little girls live in the house you can see in the picture. They have been down to the lake to play with the dolls. It seems as though the little girl wants the doll the older one is holding behind her but the older one wants to give her the other. If I had a doll and my sister had none, we would both claim and play with mine.

MYRTLE LINDSEY.

That is correct. What do you think of a girl that wouldn't give her little sister the prettiest doll? But then most of us are like this girl. We like to keep the best things, and give away what we do not want. We should give the Lord, the best we have.

Here is a letter from one who writes about the two builders mentioned in the EVANGELIST some time ago:—

ASHLAND, O., July 14, 1895.

This is my second attempt to write for the EVANGELIST. I am fourteen years old. We take the EVANGELIST and like it very much. I like to read the letters from the children. As I saw the children's column was not filled up very well, I thought I would try to write again. I read in the last EVANGELIST that the Editor wanted us to write about the wise and foolish builders. The first builder built his house on a rock and the winds blew and the floods came and it fell not. The second built his house on the sand and the winds blew and the floods came and it fell. The first fared the best because he built upon a rock. Those who hear the commandments of Christ and do them are likened unto the first. Those who hear and do them not are likened unto the second. I will close by asking a question. When was Simon Peter converted?

ORVILLE E. LEEDY.

This is a good letter and your story of the two builders is correct. But one

question you did not answer. It was this: Are you a builder? Are you building on a rock or on the sand? How do you know?

Below are three short letters by three little girls. Who will answer the questions they ask?

LAPAZ, IND., JULY 8.

Dear Editor:—This is my first letter to the EVANGELIST. I am twelve years old. I united with the Brethren church last winter and was baptized June 23. I go to Sunday-school, and my teacher's name is Mrs. Burns. Brother I. N. Miller will preach at the brick school-house to-night. I wish all my little friends would write for the EVANGELIST. I will close by asking a question. Who made iron to swim?

Your sister in Christ.

FLORENCE JESTER.

LAPAZ, IND., JULY 8.

Dear Editor:—I am going to write another letter for the EVANGELIST. I go to Sunday school, and like my teacher very well. The school teacher's brother I had last year died May the 9. I like to read the children's letters. I got my Bible and like it real well. There was baptizing May 23. There were seven baptized. I see my question is not answered. Hoping to see this in print.

LIZZIE LONGAKER.

JULY 10, 1895.

Dear Editor:—This is my first attempt to write for the children's column. As I was reading the children's letters in the EVANGELIST I thought I would write a few lines too. I am ten years old, and am staying now with my grandma Heeter. My home is at Leiter's Ford, Ind., twenty miles from Akron. My papa and my mamma belong to the Brethren church. I have five sisters. If I see this in print I may write again.

MAGGIE M. RALSTON.

Why is it that so many more girls than boys, write letters for the EVANGELIST? We would like to hear from the boys as well as from the girls.

Here is a very beautiful story about flowers in the church, copied from the *Little Pilgrim*. Read it, perhaps you can profit by it.

Little Belle loved the church so much that she was always asking what she could do for it. The first reason that she loved it was because papa and mamma did. She saw how they planned everything with a thought of it. There were a great many things to think of, but the church always

came first. When any money came into the house, the "church money" was put away in a little red velvet box before any body touched a cent of it. When the week seemed to have less minutes than usual in it, so that Saturday morning found mamma with a lot of piled-up duties, Belle used to hear her say, "Well, now, is everything ready for Sunday? We will see to that the first thing."

So it is no wonder that the little girl grew up with the feeling that whatever else had to go without, the church must not, and whatever else was left undone, Sunday and everything that belonged to it must be looked after. Such notions grow up with one. They are hardly ever learned by telling. You get them without knowing it if you stay long with people who live that way.

But little Belle used to like to know the reasons of things, and she asked her mamma one day to tell her *why* money and time and everything else were God's first, and only theirs afterwards.

"Because we are Jesus' disciples," mamma said, "and he left word for us to keep busy doing one thing in the world as long as we stay in it, and that is to preach the gospel."

"Why, mamma!" said Belle. "You don't preach any! You are just only a common lady!"

"I help," said mamma smiling. I always save a little money out of all I have to help send missionaries to preach in other countries, 'to all nations,' as Jesus said. And I give a little time to teaching in the Sunday-school. And I'm trying to have you and Harry love God's work everywhere so that one of these days I shall have two little missionaries going where I couldn't."

"Then every single thing you do for the church is one way of minding Jesus!" said Belle in a glad voice.

"Every single thing!" said mamma. "Sometimes people don't think of that, and they grudge the time they are asked to give to helping along in the little home churches, and they don't think it is of much account to teach boys and girls in the Sunday-school, and they wish they could go to China or Japan or somewhere and have their names in the Missionary Herald. Sometimes that seems to me the best thing! But then I comfort myself with thinking that if God wanted me to do that work, he would say so. And somebody wants to stay at home and see to things. When the country wants soldiers, it is the men who go out to fight, but, after all, the women and girls who let them go do their part to save the country."

"I've thought up something I can do